

Remarks

A. Pending Claims

Claims 1727-1756, 1758-1773, 1775-1804, 5396-5402, and 5405-5408 are pending. Claims 1736 and 1755 have been amended. The amendments to the claims correct typographical errors and/or clarify the claims.

B. Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1727-1756, 1758-1773, 1775-1804, 5396-5402, and 5405-5408 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over copending Application Nos. 09/840,937; 09/841,130; 09/841,131 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,609,570); 09/841,170; 09/841,195; 09/841,283; 09/841,285; 09/841,286; 09/841,288; 09/841,291 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,607,033); 09/841,294; 09/841,297 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,591,906); 09/841,300; 09/841,303; 09/841,306; 09/841,308; 09/841,429; 09/841,431; 09/841,432 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,688,387); 09/841,434; 09/841,438 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,581,684); 09/841,439; 09/841,441; 09/841,443 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,588,503); 09/841,444; 09/841,445; 09/841,449; 09/841,488; 09/841,490; 09/841,495 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,588,504); 09/841,500 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,591,907); 09/841,502; 09/841,638; and 09/841,639.

Applicant does not believe that a terminal disclaimer is needed for the present application and the above-noted applications and patents, but in the interest of expediency, a terminal disclaimer for the applications and patents is provided as a separate document.

C. Additional Remarks

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees are due in association with the filing of this document. If an extension of time is required, Applicant hereby requests the appropriate extension of time. If any fees are required or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5659-02200/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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